



Crescent Hill Newsletter

February 1992

SAVE THE LIBRARY Campaign Gains Momentum

Crescent Hill residents are signing petitions and writing letters in an attempt to save the branch library which has served the neighborhood since 1908. The campaign is urgent because a decision on the future of the library could come before the end of February.

The effort gained momentum on January 13, when nearly 100 supporters of the library gathered at the branch to hear Library Director Harriet Henderson state that closing the facility is a possibility, and that \$171,000 which has been appropri-

ated for improving it is being held while a decision is made about the branch's future.

After hearing one neighborhood resident say that closing the branch would be like "tearing the heart out of Crescent Hill", the group decided to actively campaign to save the library. Petitions are being circulated, and neighborhood residents are writing letters to city, county and library officials. A sample letter, which could be clipped and mailed, is printed on page 2, along with addresses to which it should be sent.

The Crescent Hill Community Council urges you to send a letter to support the library today. The Council itself is supporting the campaign in several ways. In addition to publicizing the effort, volunteers organized by the Council have been going door-to-door with petitions. The Council has also sent letters in support of the library to city officials and representatives are appearing at public meetings to discuss the issue.

The Friends of the Crescent Hill Library will meet again on February 10 at 7 p.m., in the basement auditorium of the branch.

Model Block Project a Winner

Two years after plans were developed to revitalize a three block section of Frankfort Avenue, City of Louisville officials and many affected property owners say the improvements have exceed their expectations. And the development in the area is not over yet.

The project, dubbed the "model block", is actually a revitalization of a three block area, beginning at Franck Avenue and continuing to the east. Plans for the project were developed by two committees of the Crescent Hill Community Council and the Louisville/Jefferson County Office for Economic Development. The plans were unveiled to local businesses in January of 1990, shown to property owners in a series of meetings over the next month and endorsed by the Council's board of directors in March.

In the two years since, the City has spent over \$58,000 for public improvements in the area, including the installation of new sidewalks, trees and benches. Low interest loans for facade improvements totalling over \$60,000 have been made to property owners. More facade improvements are expected, because another \$60,000 in loans have been approved, but closings have not yet occurred.

Because the project's planners foresaw an increased demand for parking along Frankfort

Avenue as the area was revitalized, money was made available for paving, striping, lighting and landscaping parking areas in the rear of the commercial buildings, if property owners would provide easements for that purpose. Although that aspect of the project has gone slower than hoped, City officials are actively working on plans to develop 25 parking spaces behind parcels in the 2700 block of the street.

In addition to coordinating the initial planning for the project, the Community Council has set aside money for flowers to be planted in the flower beds located on the north side of Frankfort Avenue in the model block area this spring, and volunteers organized by the Council and the Frankfort Avenue Business Association will be maintaining the flowers beds.

Porcini, an Italian restaurant, is the newest business to locate in the model block area. (For more about Porcini, see page 5) Owner Tim Coury said he had been looking for a Frankfort Avenue location for some time and was pleased to find a spot in the model block, which, he said, "is looking great". City economic development officials say Crescent Hill's project is so successful that it has become an example for other neighborhood economic development projects.



THE
CRESCENT HILL
BRANCH LIBRARY

Coming Attractions

Lincoln's Birthday.....February 12

February Crescent Hill
Board Meeting
Everyone Invited.....February 13

March Newsletter
Deadline.....February 14

Presidents' Day.....February 17

Washington's Birthday.....February 22

*NOTE: The newsletter deadline is the second Friday of each month.